


PRODUCTION OF COMB-HONEY

One of Fundamental Requirements of Equipment in Hives is That They Be Uniform in Size.

(BY GEORGE S. DEMUTH.)

A beehive must serve the dual purpose of being a home for a colony of bees and at the same time a tool for the beekeeper. Its main requirements are along the line of its adaptation to the various manipulations of the applary in so far as these do not materially interfere with the protection and comfort it affords the colony of bees. Since rapid manipulation is greatly facilitated by simple and uniform apparatus, one of the fundamental requirements of the equipment in hives is that they be of the same style and size, with all parts exactly alike and interchangeable throughout the applary. While the hives and equipment should be as simple and inexpensive as possible, consistent with their various functions, a cheap and poorly constructed beehive is, all things considered, an expensive piece of apparatus.

For comb-honey production the brood chamber should be of such a size that by proper management it may be well filled with brood at the beginning of the honey flow, so that the brood and surplus apartments may be definitely separated. A brood chamber may be considered too large if by proper management it is not on an average fairly well filled with



Super With Section Holder for Beeway Sections.

brood at the beginning of the honey flow, and too small if it provides an average of less room than the colony is able to occupy with brood previous to the honey flow. Unless the beekeeper practices feeding, a brood chamber that does not contain sufficient room for both winter stores and brood rearing during late summer and autumn may also be considered too small. It may be well to note that by this standard, if the brood chamber seems to be too small the fault may lie in the management during the previous autumn, winter or spring. Of course the brood chamber that is barely large enough for one colony will be too large for another in the same apiary, or the character of the season may be such that all brood chambers may be too small for best results one season and too large the next, so an average must be sought.

The sectional hive in which the brood chamber is composed of two or more shallow hive bodies, making it horizontally divisible, offers some advantages, especially to the comb-honey specialist. Most of the ordinary manipulations can be performed readily with such hives without removing the frames. One of their greatest advantages in comb-honey production is the rapidity with which the apiarist can examine the colonies for queen cells if natural swarming is to be controlled by manipulation.

Some of the advantages of the plain over the beeway sections are: (1) They are simpler in construction, therefore costing less. (2) The edges being plain with no insets, the plain sections are more easily cleaned of propolis when being prepared for market and are especially adapted to cleaning by machinery. (3) By leaving the spacers in, the super, sections of the same honey content occupy less space in the shipping cases, thus reducing the cost of packages. (4) The plain section is adapted to an arrangement permitting freer com-

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any section are: (1) The honey is somewhat less liable to injury by handling. (2) Being wider at the



Beesway and Plain Sections, Unfolded

corners where folded, they are stronger. (3) Some markets, being accustomed to the larger cases necessary to contain a given number of beesway sections, object to the smaller package containing the same number of plain sections, simply because it is small."

Irish National Color.

The color officially recognized for Ireland is blue, St. Patrick's blue, and that was anciently and honorably recognized as the Irish color. In the royal standard of the United Kingdom the quarter blazoning Ireland shows this field of blue as the background for the golden harp with its silver strings. The ribbon of the Order of St. Patrick is of the same blue. The green is the revolutionary color and is quite modern. Some antiquarians maintain that the earliest flag of Ireland was of orange, long superseding the more recent factional use of that color.

His Impression.

Farmer Carrot—So you've been at the city, St.—your first time that?

Farmer Beestroot—Yes.

Farmer Carrot—Well, how was it? What impressed ye most?

Farmer Beestroot—You know how it sounds in the barn when a threshing machine's going helkety spilk?

Farmer Carrot—Yes.

Farmer Beestroot—We'll, th' best